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Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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R 080135Z JUN 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6197
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AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3234

E.O. 11652: GDS 80
TAGS: MCAP NATO
SUBJECT: INFRASTURCTURE CEILING AND COST SHARING FOR 1975-
1979 PERIOD

REFS: A. USNATO 2973
B. USNATO 2987
C. USNATO 3182
D. STATE 116970

BEGIN SUMMARY. THREE REPRESENTATIVES (BELGIAN, GERMAN, AND
DUTCH) OF INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUP ON SUBJECT MATTER (REPORTED
IN REF B), CALLED UPON DEFENSE ADVISOR PRENDERGASTTHIS DATE FOR
EXPLORATORY CONVERSTATION IN RESPONSE TO AOUR AIDE
MEMOIRE GIVEN TO DCM (NETHERLANDS) BUWALDA, REPORTED UPON IN REF C.
SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTED THAT THEY (1) COULD ACCEPT

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RE-EVALUATION OF PROGRAM SIZE DURING THE FOURTH
YEAR (1973), AND (2) ARE PREAPRED TO COMPROMISE ON A FIGURE MID-WAY
BETWEEN IAU 30 MILLION AND IAU 41 MILLION FOR QTE SPECIAL PROJECTS
UNQUOTE. THEY COULD NOT AGREE TO LIMITING THE SPECIAL PROJECTS TO
THOSE CURRENTLY INELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCUTE. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD
CONSIDER A LIST OF PROJECTS IN WHICH THE US HAS SPECIAL INTEREST.
END SUMMARY
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1. DEFENSE ADVISOR PRENDERGAST EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR PROMPY
RESPONSE TO US AIDE MEMOIRE GIVEN TO DCM (NETHERLANDS) BUWALDA
(REF C). HE CITED RECENT US LEGISLATIVE VOTES ASENCOURAGING
EVIDENCE OF CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR KEEPING US TROOPS IN EUROPE

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IF OUR ALLIES TAKE CONCRETE ACTIONS TOWARD FURTHER BURDENSHARING. HE EXPRESSED BELIEF CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT WOULD BE STRENGTHENED BY ALLIED MOVEMENT CLOSER TO US POSITION ON INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AND COST SHARES. US, HE SAID, CONTINUES TO BELIEVE AN INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM OF IAU 600 MILLION IS NECESSARY FOR THE 1975-1979 PERIOD.

2. SPOKESMAN FOR THE INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUP SAID CEILING ABOVE IAU 450 MILLION WAS TO MUCH TO EXPECT FROM ALLIES AND THAT IT WOULD BE HARD TO MOVE UK TO THIS LEVEL. IN REPONSE TO PRENDERGAST'S QUESTION, GROUP SPOKESMAN SAID EVEN IAU 460 MILLION CEILING WAS UNATTAINABLE.

3. GROUP SPOKESMAN OFFERED POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING EFFECTIVE US COST SHARE TO 20 PERCENT BY SPECIAL PROGRAM WHICH WOULD FINANCE SPEICIFIC PROJECTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE US. HOWEVER, THE GROUP COULD NOT AGREE THAT THESE QTE SPECIAL INTEREST UNQTE ITEMS SHOULD CONSIST OF PROJECTS CURRENTLY INELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AS PROPOSED BY THE US. THEY SUGGESTED THAT WE GIVE THEM A LIST OF PROJECTS HAVING QTE SPECIAL INTEREST UNQTE TO THE US WHICH THEY MIGHT CONSIDER. THIS LIST MIGHT INCLUDE: (1) CATEGORIES OR PROJECTS FROM THE IAU 926 MILLION REQUIREMENTS WHICH MOST LIKELY COULD NOT BE PROGRAMMED WITHIN A CEILING IF IAU 450 MILLION FOR THE 1975-1979 PERIOD; AND (2) CATEGORIES OR PROJECTS WHICH NATIONS AGREE IN THE AD-70 REPORT (DPC/D(74)11 AND DPC/D(74)9 DRAFT) ARE NECESSARY FOR IMPROVEMENT IN NATO'S DEFENSE POSTURE.

4. FACILITIES QTE IN SUPPORT OF US STATIONED FORCES UNQTE COULD BE CONSIDERED FURTHER IF A LIST OF CATEGORIES, OR PREFERABLY BY SPECIFIC PROJECTS, COULD BE PROVIDED DRAWN FROM ITEMS WHICH THE US PLANNED TO CONSTRUCT THROUGH ITS OWN NATIONAL RESOURCES IN T1975-1979 PERIOD.

5. AS TO THE LEVEL OF FINANCING FOR THE US SPECIAL PROGRAM, GROUP SUGGESTED A FIGURE MIDWAY BETWEEN IAU 30 AND 41 MILLION.

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6. MISSION IS NEDEAVORING TO DRAW UP BY EARLY NEXT WEEK A LIST OF CATEGORIES OR PROJECTS OF THE TYPE REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 ABOVE. REQUEST YOU PROVIDE TO MISSION (FROM OSD OR OTHER SOURCES) INFORMATION OF THE TYPE REFERRED TO IN PARA 4 ABOVE, BEARING IN MID THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF FACILITIES FOR QTE US STATIONED FORCES UNQTE AS DESCRIBED IN NATO FORA: QUTE SUCH A CATEGORY WOULD BE FOR MILITARY OPERATIONAL AND LOGISTIC FACILITIES FOR US FORCES STATIONED IN NATO COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES. THIS INCLUDES OPERATIONAL. MAINTENANCE, STORAGE, MEDICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES, AND TROOP HOUSING AND UTILITIES. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION OF WHAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED QTE COMMUNITY SUPPORT UNQTE FACILITIES SUCH AS FOR DEPENDENT SCHOOLS, RELIGIUOUS ACTIVITIES, WELFARE NEEDS, FAMILY HOUSING AND OTHER SIMILAR ITEMS UNQTE.

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7. MISSION WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS WITH DISCUSSION GROUP WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT AN EARLY SOLUTION. ALTHOUGH IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT MATTER CAN BE RESOLVED BEFORE 14 JUNE MINISTERIAL, INTERVENTION AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL AT THAT TIME COULD RESOLVE THE TWO UNSETTLED POINTS--THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THE US.

8. SPOKESMAN COOPS (NETHERLANDS) ADVISED THAT DCM BUWALDA THIS DATE INFORMED THE UK DELEGATION OF THE POSITION OF THE US AS EXPRESSED IN AIDE MEMOIRE REPORTED UPON IN REF C. SUBSEQUENTLY, BUWALDA INFORMED US DCM MCAULIFFE THAT HE HAD HAD DISCUSSION WITH UK REPRESENTATIVE, WHO INTENDS TO RELAY THIS INFORMATION TO LONDON.

9. SUBJECT TO FURTHER GUIDANCE, WE WILL BE GUIDED BY REF D. DESIRE EARLY ATTENTION TO INFORMATION REQUESTED IN PARA 4 ABOVE.

10. COMMENT: MISSION VIEWS THE SUBMISSION OF A LIST OF CATEGORIES OF INFRASTRUCTURE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE US FROM WHICH THE SPECIAL PROGRAM WOULD BE DRAWN AS A MEANS OF POSSIBLY AVOIDING ARGUMENT OVER WHETHER THESE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING UNDER CURRENT RULES AND AT THE SAME TIME SECURING BUDGETARY SUPPORT FOR US STATIONED FORCES. WE BELIEVE FURNISHING THE LIST IS WORTH EFFORT INVOLVED AS A MEANS OF CONTINUING NEGOTIATION. OBVIOUSLY, ANY LIST PUT TOGETHER HERE WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR WASHINGTON APPROVAL. IF PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATION WARRANTS , PERHAPS MINISTERIAL APPROVAL AT DPC OF A SPECIAL PROGRAM WITHIN INFRASTRUCTURE
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SHOULD BE SOUGHT.
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